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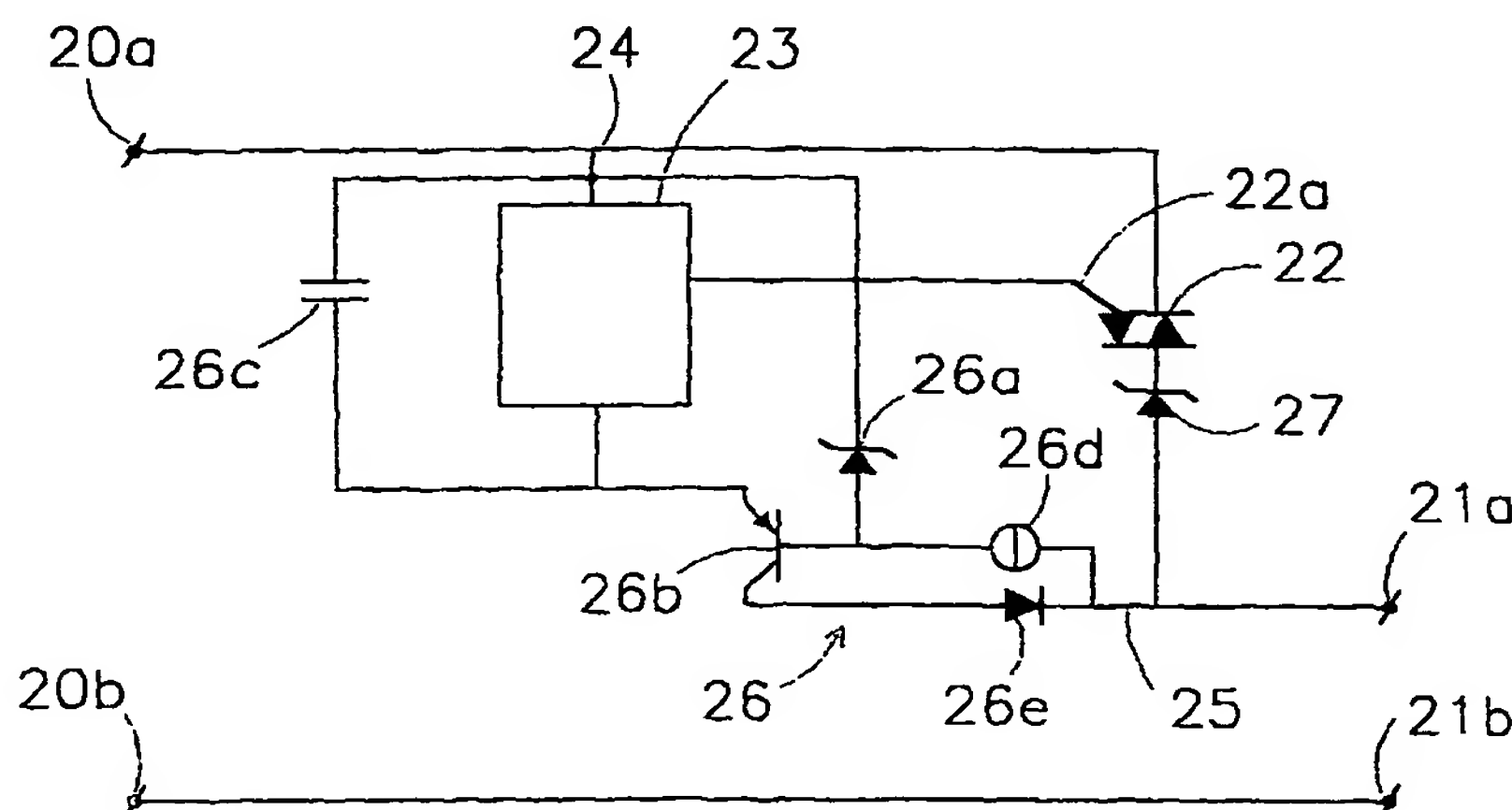
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- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*):  
**SPAARSTEKKER B.V.** [NL/NL]; Graaf Florisstraat  
63a, NL-3021 CC Rotterdam (NL).
- (72) Inventors; and  
(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **STENFERT  
KROESE, Willem, Herman** [NL/NL]; Graaf Florisstraat  
63a, NL-3021 CC Rotterdam (NL). **HILLHORST, Max-  
imus, Andreas** [NL/NL]; Dr. Kimmijserlaan 22, NL-6741  
VG Lunteren (NL).
- (74) Agent: **RIEMENS, R., H.**; Exter Polak & Charlouis B.V.,  
P.O. Box 3241, NL-2280 GE Rijswijk (NL).
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(54) Title: SWITCHING UNIT FOR SWITCHING A CONNECTION BETWEEN A MAINS AND A LOAD



(57) Abstract: A switching unit for connecting a load to a mains as a function of a demand for a consumption current by the load comprises a mains port for electrically connecting the switching unit to the mains, a load port for electrically connecting the switching unit to the load, a switching element for producing a substantially conductive electrical connection between the mains port and the load port in its closed state and substantially breaking the said electrical connection in its open state. Furthermore, the switching unit comprises current measuring means for measuring a consumption current consumed by the load, and the control means, which are connected to the switching element, are designed to bring the switching element into the open and closed states on the basis of a consumption current measured by means of the current measuring means in an at least temporarily closed state of the switching element. Furthermore, the invention comprises a method for connecting the load to a mains as a function of the demand of a load for a consumption current.